

**Washington Military Department  
Emergency Management Division  
State Enhanced 911 Program**

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**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Governor proclaims Sept. 11 as 9-1-1 Day**

**Camp Murray, WA** -- Gov. Gary Locke has proclaimed Sept. 11 as **9-1-1 Day** to recognize the importance of 9-1-1 service to our health and safety and to thank the thousands of public safety providers upon whom we rely every day.

Currently, 67 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) or 9-1-1 communications centers operate in the state's 39 counties providing 24/7 coverage, 365 days a year for residents of Washington and state visitors. When calling 9-1-1, we rely upon these public safety personnel to save and protect our lives, property and environment. These trained professionals deserve our recognition and a salute for thousands of jobs well done each year.

The 9-1-1 emergency telephone number system serves to provide residents with one easy-to-remember telephone number for reporting police, fire and medical emergencies.

The residents of Washington may access enhanced 9-1-1 emergency telephone systems statewide. The enhanced 9-1-1 emergency telephone system in Washington state automatically identifies the location of the caller and routes emergency calls to the correct public safety jurisdiction, helping to provide a faster and more accurate response by aid providers.

Historically, 9-1-1 is the nation's first, first responder. Every year since 1987 on Sept. 11, the nation's public safety 9-1-1 communications centers celebrate **9-1-1 Day**. The National Emergency Number Association (NENA) recognizes and promotes **9-1-1 Day** nationally. September 11 was selected as the date in which to honor 9-1-1 public safety professionals, because Sept. 11 is the ninth month of the year, the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the month -- accordingly, 9-1-1 -- an easy date to remember and an easy date to promote and to educate the public on its use.

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